

# LOCAL 1-S NEWS

for department store workers

Vol. 11, No. 1

334

JANUARY 1, 1960

## Local 1-S Urges Mayor Wagner to Include Retail Workers in \$1.25 'Wage Mobilization'

DOMESTIC SERVICE		WESTERN UNION		INTERNATIONAL SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a fast telegram		TELEGRAM		Check the class of service desired; otherwise the message will be sent at the full rate	
TELETYPE		1207 (4-55)		FULL RATE	
DAY LETTER		T.W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT		LETTER TELEGRAM	
NIGHT LETTER				SHORE-SHIP	
WIRE-CL. OF SVC.	PD. CHARGE	CASH	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED	
The following message is subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to					
MAYOR ROBERT F. WAGNER CITY HALL, NEW YORK 19					
Send and No. _____					
Date of _____					
Dist. No. _____					
Destination _____					
APPLAUD YOUR STAND TO PUSH STATUTORY \$1.25 MINIMUM WAGE AT STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS. WE NOTE THAT, TO DATE, COVERAGE OF RETAIL WORKERS IS NOT INDICATED IN YOUR PROGRAM. SINCE THIS MAJOR FIELD OF WHITE COLLAR AND SOFT GOODS WORKERS IS EXCLUDED FROM NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE LEGISLATION WE CORDIALLY URGE YOU TO SEIZE OPPORTUNITY TO STRESS LEGISLATION FOR THIS IMPORTANT GROUP OF NEW YORK WORKERS. WE SUBMIT THAT DEPARTMENT STORE AND RETAIL WORKERS MUST RECEIVE IDENTICAL CONSIDERATION IF SOUND LEGISLATIVE APPROACH IS TO BE DEVELOPED, AND IF IT IS TO WARRANT GENERAL PUBLIC SUPPORT. WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY RESPONSE TO THIS PROPOSAL.					
SAM KOVENETSKY, PRES.					
LOCAL 1-S, DEPT. STORE WORKERS UNION					

Pres. Sam Kovenetsky has called on Mayor Robert F. Wagner to include department store and retail workers in his "mobilization" for an increased statutory minimum wage of \$1.25.

On December 16, the city's mayor announced plans to rally support for such a Federal and State legal minimum. He asked City Councilman Earl Brown to introduce a resolution in the Council calling for hearings on a \$1.25 wage floor. The hearings are expected to give trade unions, civic agencies and employers an opportunity to present their views on this subject.

The Commerce and Industry Association of New York, the leading employer group in this area, has already issued a statement opposed to such an increase.

Pres. Kovenetsky made his request in a telegram which applauded Mayor Wagner's position, but also asked for an early response to the message. (See text of telegram at left.) As the "Local 1-S News" went to press, the Mayor's answer had not yet been received.

The Local 1-S telegram was cited in news stories in "The New York Times," "Herald Tribune," "New York Post," and "Women's Wear."

The action favoring a 25-cent rise in the legal wage minimums is viewed as an effort to help end sweatshop conditions in various New York industries. It is also designed to reduce the money spent by the city indirectly subsidizing the city's low wage industries through supplemental relief, municipal payments for hospital care, and other municipal payments for services for which many city workers are too poor to pay.

Part of the Wagner program is an industrial development council which would help promote business and industrial development in the metropolitan area.

### Letter to N. Y. AFL-CIO

In connection with the Mayor's plans, Pres. Kovenetsky wrote to New York AFL-CIO President Harry Van Arsdale, Jr. In the letter to the official labor body, Pres. Kovenetsky wrote:

"Local 1-S, Department Store Workers Union has been much interested in Mayor Robert F. Wagner's plan to mobilize support for \$1.25 minimum wage legislation at the national and state levels. No doubt, the Mayor will look to this city's labor movement to mobilize its strength in support of the program.

"Our union undertook to send a telegram to the Mayor to remind him that department store and other retail workers are not

covered under federal minimum wage legislation, although there is a New York State wage floor of \$1.00 an hour.

"We respectfully submit to you and to the Executive Board of the New York City Central Labor Council that any official labor co-operation with the Mayor's program should make clear that department store and all other retail workers must receive the same consideration as other workers."

### City Council Resolution

The resolution to be proposed by Councilman Brown will ask the city's legislative body to petition Congress and the state legislature to adopt the proposed wage standard. The \$1.25 minimum was recommended by a Senate subcommittee at the last session of Congress, but the measure was defeated by powerful employer pressures, including those of the leading retail trade associations.

In the period since the Wagner announcement, two other major union groups have released public statements welcoming the Mayor's stand. However, the New York Hotel Trades Council, representing 35,000 unionized hotel workers, asked the Mayor to demonstrate his sincerity by recommending a city law for a pay floor of \$1.25 an hour. The hotel council said there was no legal obstacle to such municipal legislation.

Leaders of 40,000 clothing workers called on Mayor Wagner and Gov. Nelson Rockefeller to enlist the direct support of New York Congressmen to support the Federal minimum wage.

New York affiliates of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union noted in a resolution that "members of Congress from this state had done 'nothing at all to protect the wage standards of their constituents while Southern Congressmen have worked overtime to hold down pay scales in the interest of sweatshop employers in their districts."

An urgent appeal to members (Continued on page 4)



## Worth Talking About

BY PRESIDENT SAM KOVENETSKY

As I write these words, a few days after Christmas and the beginning of Hanukkah, many of us are part of the prevailing mood of good spirits and good will toward our fellow men.

The year 1960 is before us, and most of us share in that essential, human hopefulness that the next year will be better for us, in health, in our personal fortunes, in the state of the world. It is our tendency to look for the best.

Yet facts are stubborn, as a notable American thinker once said. The "best" is not delivered to us on a silver platter. Most times, we have to earn our way: most times we have to fight our way.

I think now of an issue which has been again projected into public attention, at least here in New York, with the Mayor's call for a mobilization of public opinion for a federal and state minimum wage of \$1.25.

The question of a decent minimum wage seems to me not only a fundamental economic question directly affecting the entire life pattern of low-paid workers, and many others up the wage scale, but a deeply moral question.

What can we think of employers who pay wages which are less than half of what it costs to support a small family? What can we think of Congressmen and state legislators who so determinedly fight against any improvement in the existing \$1.00 minimum wage?

Are these people merely old-fashioned, tight-fisted, cheap, or is there some moral blind spot, some crowning arrogance which regards workers as mere tools in the industrial process, and not genuinely as persons and fellow citizens.

(Continued on page 3)

## Training Institute Set For Members Of Exec. Board

A Union Training Institute for an estimated 40 board members will be held on January 15-17 at Pleasant View Lodge, Freehold, New York.

Pres. Sam Kovenetsky and Vice Presidents Phil Hoffstein and Bill Atkinson will lead the seminars on Grievance Procedures. Union Attorney Asher Schwartz will lecture on "Legal Problems Affecting Our Union. Lou Levine, secretary of the N. Y. AFL-CIO Community Services Committee, will review "Community Resources Available to Local 1-S Members." Adolph Gersh will discuss "Workmen's Compensation."

Planned as the first in a series of seminars for union representatives, the training institute was proposed by the Local 1-S officers as a valuable means of strengthening the Local 1-S educational program. The project has been approved by the 1959 Stewards Conference, the Executive Board and the last Membership Meeting.

Although the first training institute must be limited to 40, those unable to attend the first sessions will have a future opportunity to improve their techniques of effectively representing the members' rights and interests.



# Macy's 'Cheery Message' to Members Stirs Kovenetsky to 'Literary' Effort

## The Macy Message

**Macy's**  
NEW YORK

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

HERALD SQUARE, NEW YORK 1, N.Y.

December 14, 1959

Dear fellow-Macyite:

Only ten more days to go. I'm sure it's a great relief to see the Christmas rush drawing to an end. It hasn't been easy, but you've done a wonderful job. I hope you're as gratified as I am about our busy Christmas season. If you remember, last year was our 100th Anniversary Christmas and we thought it would be hard to beat. Thanks to the way everybody is pitching in, it now looks as though we'll do even more volume this year.

Ten days sounds like a short time. But these days are very important to Macy's. Human nature being what it is, there's always a last minute rush and a substantial part of our Christmas business is actually done between now and Christmas. We do everything we can to bring people in earlier, but eleventh-hour shoppers are eleventh-hour shoppers and nobody's ever been able to change them.

We'll be even more crowded than we've been and, frankly, customers may be harder to please. Some of the things they want will be out of stock, and they'll be worried about getting their gifts on time. They'll feel rushed and pushed. If you were in their shoes, you'd feel the same way. So please do everything you can to make shopping easier for them. Personally you may not be too sympathetic with them for waiting till the last minute, but I'm sure you're much too smart to show it.

It's very tempting to relax as you near the end, but I hope you will not let down now. You've done such a fine job that it would be a pity to spoil it.

One last thing. I want to ask you to see to it that everything that's been bought gets out of the store on time. This involves the cooperation of everybody...packing, merchandise control, warehouse, platform, adjustment, selling...everybody. Otherwise all our work and effort will be wasted. Only then can we sit back and take a deep breath and enjoy the feeling of a monumental job finished and well done. And, needless to say, enjoy our own merry Christmas...which we will have certainly earned.

Sincerely,

*Arthur L. Manches*  
Arthur L. Manches  
President

## The Union Message

December 29, 1959

Dear Fellow Unionist:

Only a year and 32 days to go—until our next union contract. I'm sure it will be a great relief to see that your "wonderful" job will be so much appreciated at that time. I hope you are gratified about Macy's busy Christmas season—which included three \$2,000,000 days. If you remember, we had to go on strike for 13 days in 1956 to win barely acceptable conditions for the current contract. But thanks to the way everybody has pitched in behind our negotiations, it is certain that our next union contract will have more "volume" than this year.

A year and 32 days sounds like a long time. But our union avoids a last-minute rush in preparing its case and gathering its data. We do everything we can to persuade the company management of the needs of Macy workers, but human nature being what it is, nobody's ever been able to change them.

We're not sure whether management expects to crowd us and, frankly, some Macy executives are hard to please. And they'll be worried about pleasing the top management brass. They will say they feel rushed and pushed. Personally you may not be too sympathetic with them, but I am sure you are much too smart to show it, except through effective union techniques.

You've done such a fine job that it would be a pity if you didn't receive due recognition at the labor-management bargaining table in the form of gains in wages, hours, pensions, health and other benefits.

One last thing. I want to ask you to keep alert, to participate in all possible union activity, to attend union meetings, read our union newspaper, and formulate your opinion on any phase of union activity, and speak up for them. Otherwise, when negotiating time comes, a good deal of work and effort will be wasted. The cooperation and unity of every union member is involved. Only when we have won a satisfactory, new union contract can we sit back and take a deep breath and enjoy the feeling of a job well done; and needless to say, to enjoy improved security and a better standard of living... which we will have certainly earned.

Fraternally,

SAM KOVENETSKY, President

## Shop Steward Profile

Bill Eichorn

Together with Bill Carey, Bill Eichorn is the co-steward of sub-basement Packing, and has been handling that responsibility for three years.

A member of Local 1-S since he first went to work for Macy's eighteen years ago, Bill figures that the two-steward set-up in his department works well. "Two heads are better than one," he says.

A married man with three youngsters, age 14, 11 and 9, Bill Eichorn is constantly aware of the need for extra income. One of his favorite forms of relaxation is to take in some ball games, both baseball and football, especially with his 14-year-old.

There's a good union spirit in the Packing area, says Bill, and the people fulfill their union responsibilities as well as possible. Matter of fact, both he and Bill Carey act "as much like chaplains," as shop stewards. Every kind of problem comes to them, not only job grievances, but also difficulties of a personal nature. The department's workers in this category are usually referred to the Local 1-S counseling sessions on Wednesday nights at the Union Office.

"Sometimes I have to tell my gang off," Bill adds, "and sometimes they tell me off."

The fraternal feeling in Packing is very close, and Bill points out that most of his "gang" consists of veteran members of the union. No regular man has been a Local 1-S member for less than 15 years.

"They know from way back what the union has done for them," he recalls. "They know what they had before, and what they have now. They grew up with the union!"

Most of the trouble Packing has with management occurs around the time of holidays, Bill says. "That's when they try to economize on the regular workers, skimp on overtime—until they get snowed under." Most recently Packing has been trying to win agreement on "Q-money," which is extra pay for night work.

Asked what advances he hopes to see the union accomplish in the period ahead, Shop Steward Eichorn first mentions money and, then, a dental plan. Then he adds thoughtfully, "A lot of us are get-

## NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS of the LOCAL 1-S FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

**The Regular Annual Meeting  
Of All Members Will Be Held on  
Wednesday, January 27, 1960 - 6:45 P.M.**

At the Union Office, 290 Seventh Avenue

Agenda: 1—Reports for Year Ending Dec. 31, 1959  
2—Declaration of Dividends  
3—Election of Officers

Refreshments Will Be Served!

## 270 Petition for Change In Time Clock Location

Over 270 union members on the Fifth Floor signed a petition, sponsored by the Floor Committee, requesting the Macy management to re-locate the time clock.

Displaced by a new travel bureau from a more central location on the Fifth Floor, the time clock was shifted to the Broadway end of the building.

As a result, the people on the floor faced an irritating, time-consuming chore of a long walk to punch in and out. The gratuitous, ill-considered action caused considerable resentment, and the advice of the Floor Committee which noted more convenient lo-

cations was ignored by the Superintendent's office.

Vice Pres. Bill Atkinson and Administrator Charles Boyd took up the question with the 16th Floor. After this meeting, several executives were assigned to examine alternative locations suggested by the union representatives.

When the mass petition of the large group of Fifth Floor workers was circulated, the company management had still new grounds for thought.

The company decided to reconsider the time clock location, and has promised an answer shortly after the turn of the year.

## Members Offered Hawaii Tour With Help of 1-S Credit Union

All Local 1-S members who wish to join the 18-day tour of Hawaii and California are advised to attend a special meeting called by the union's Activities Committee.

The meeting will be held Tuesday, January 12, 1960 at 6:45 P.M. at the union office. Members should be prepared to make a down payment of \$100.

The tour, which will begin on June 24 and end in New York on July 11, will cost between \$625 and \$650.

This sum will include air fare, first class hotels with private

baths, tours, tips, transfer of luggage, and most meals.

The union tourists will have three days and nights in San Francisco, twelve days and nights in Honolulu, and three days and nights in Los Angeles. In addition to the fabulous trip to Hawaii itself, the tourists will see Disneyland, Hollywood, Diamond Beach, Sunset Strip and other world-famed sights.

The Local 1-S Credit Union is ready to help each union member to finance the tour with a long-term payment plan, which will be available to all members in good standing.

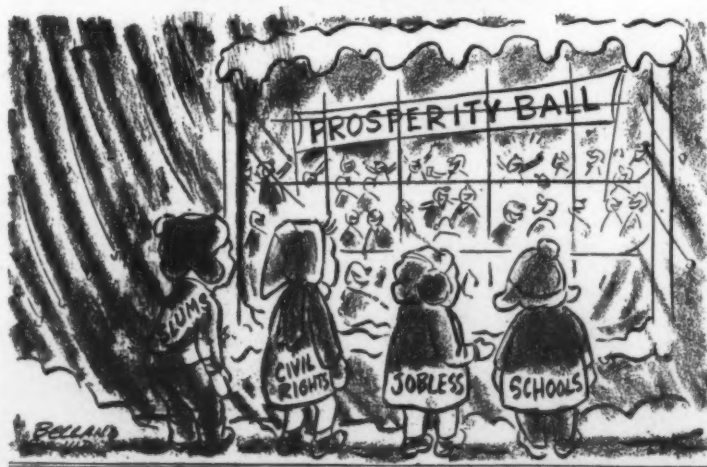
## Packing'se Workers Appeal For Boycott Of Wilson Products

5500 Packinghouse workers, on strike against Wilson and Co., third largest meat-packer in the country, are seeking the cooperation of AFL-CIO trade unionists.

On strike since November, the meat workers have failed in all efforts to reach a decent and fair settlement with the company. It has become clear that the Wilson management is out to destroy the union.

All members of Local 1-S and their family and friends are requested not to buy any Wilson meat or sporting goods products until a fair and equitable agreement is reached.

## "THE OUTSIDERS"





## Worth Talking About

BY SAM KOVENETSKY

(Continued from page 1)

You and I live in the biggest, richest city in the country. Yet the average wage scale is the next to lowest of the twenty leading American cities.

We live in the richest city in the world, and on all sides we see poverty and slums. New York—let's face it—is a low wage town. Some trades make comparatively good money: building trades, printing, the teamsters, a few skilled crafts in the manufacturing industries. But the department store and other retail worker, the white collar and soft good trades, the service industries—these are so badly underpaid as to constitute one of the major scandals of our time.

It was on March 1, 1956, that the Federal \$1.00 minimum wage went into effect, after having been pegged at 75 cents. At that time, the trade union movement argued that \$1.25 was the minimum needed at that time. Since then, the cost of living has gone up steadily.

But you can be certain that the employers, and NAM's and retail federations will complain that they cannot afford a \$1.25 wage minimum. And the retail giants, like Macy's and the chain stores which dominate the retail industry in America, will conjure up figures to show how low is their ratio of profit to sales. (And they will not talk in their reports to stockholders of their profit ratio to investment, or the fine, internal profit-sharing deals and stock option plans they devise for top management, namely themselves.)

Yes, these people who write sweet Christmas letters to work harder, and print beneficent Christmas messages in company house organs—these people will complain that they cannot pay even \$1.25 an hour.

And yet, in still small sectors of the retail industry which have been organized by unions like Local 1-S, they have stayed in business, they have made sizeable profits, they have retained high-priced executive talent, including the notorious Nat Sheffermans, to fight trade unionism.

This is the situation which exists in the largest, richest city in the world. And, of course, everyone of us helps to subsidize this low-wage economy in New York through the taxes we all pay to enable necessary supplementary relief payments to be made, and free hospital care and other municipal services to be provided to people who cannot pay their way under this structure.

Let's take our own situation. Retail employees, with minor exceptions, are excluded from Federal minimum wage law. When the bill was passed in 1956, the gimmick was to narrowly define workers who were engaged in "inter-state commerce."

Thus, where the Federal minimum wage law applies, Macy workers are not legally considered to be in "inter-state commerce." When labor relations is involved, we are considered as being in "inter-state commerce," and we come under the jurisdiction of the National Labor Relations Board.

Even Secretary of Labor Mitchell (former Macy vice president) sided with the retail giants back in 1955:

"These multi-state enterprises are basically not local nor intrastate in the most important characteristics, including ownership, control, management and personnel policy."

But the wage legislation of the land, and labor legislation in general, as Local 1-S members know, more truly reflect the will of the employers than they do the truly democratic ethos of our American civilization.

Fortunately, the workers at Macy's have a union to represent them, our own Local 1-S. And at the same time that we are joining with other unions to press for the passage of a Federal minimum wage law, we are anticipating the end of the current union contract, and the negotiations which will win our next one, which begins Feb. 1, 1960.

Given the needs, and the constantly increasing cost of living, personally look to our next union contract guaranteeing a wage minimum of not less than \$55 a week. I do not know how that figure can be challenged by any one as an irreducible minimum. Our present contractual wage floor is \$46, but is plainly obsolete and out of date.

I look forward to a reduction of the 40-hour week in Macy's for union members. Already several major industries in New York have shorter work week. The garment industry has a 35-hour week, as well as the majority of office workers. It is time for us to fight for comparable work week.

Or consider the existing pension plan. Under our contract, a member who has worked faithfully and consistently for 35 years, and reaches the age of 65 achieves a big \$35-a-month pension! This too is a substandard condition, and no longer acceptable. Imagine, after extended negotiations, struggles, and pulling down the store, the most we could win from the largest department store in the world is this pittance of a pension.

Take the Blue Cross Plan as another example. This is a system of hospital insurance which was created in significant part out of the collective agreements which unions demanded in negotiations. We are the largest, wealthiest city in the world . . . but there are other states which have better Blue Cross plans. California, Michigan, and New Jersey are some examples. We must look further into improving our Health Plan.

These points illustrate, in brief and in preliminary way, some of our thinking which will become final and definite as we learn the thinking of the union's members, and consider these various matters at the responsible meetings of Local 1-S.

Some four years hence, in 1964, a World's Fair will be held in this, the largest, richest city in the world. Hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions of visitors from every section of the world, as well as our own country, will come to New York.

I wonder how proud and shining a face this city will be able to show the world. Or will we appear a confused mixture of commercial office palaces on Park Avenue, and decaying slums for the working people who make the great enterprises of this city go.

I believe the heart of the problem is the buying power of the people in this city. This city will not renew itself, neither its economy, housing, social gains or standard of living until the people, as a whole, can pay for them.

## Union Counselor Advises:

# Community Services and Guidance Available to Local 1-S Members

(This article is the second in a series of three on the major services provided free to members at the Wednesday Night Counseling Sessions at the Union Office.)

New York is a giant city, so large and complex that the individual sometimes feels lost, especially when he may have personal problems which are not in his power to solve.

He may need the special guidance of a social worker, or the expertise of a community agency specialist. Information and opportunities to work out individual difficulties may be available, but first a person must know where to look, what to ask . . . to tap the skills and facilities of the vast structure of social and community service organizations in New York.

The labor movement throughout the nation has been learning how to build these bridges of communication between worker and agency, and Local 1-S can rightfully claim to have been one of the first.

### Varied Personal Problems

On every Wednesday night throughout the year, except during the summer months, a Local 1-S Counselor is on hand to consult with union members about any problem on which they need help.

These sessions are conducted privately of course, and without charge, by Louis Levine, and assisted by Bunny Connelly. Lou, as most Local 1-S members know him, is secretary of the New York AFL-CIO Community Services Committee, and a labor representative at the Greater New York Fund; Bunny is his associate in these varied duties.

The basic form of the Wednesday night interview is quite simple. Lou or Bunny asks the member to state all the facts relating to the problems, and may ask various questions to get the whole story.

Sometimes the problem may be an easy one, and the Community Services Counselor may be able to make a recommendation on the spot. Otherwise, the union member is referred to one of the many agencies affiliated with the Greater New York Fund, or to another source of aid or expert information.

The member is usually notified within 24 hours or asked to call Lou Levine for additional information or action of some kind. Fully one-third of Local 1-S member problems center on the inadequacy of housing, Lou Levine reports, and he may make an appointment for the member to file an application for a housing project.

### Emergency Aid

Many emergency situations have been resolved through the Local 1-S Community Service referrals. In one case, a member's wife was recuperating from surgery, and someone was needed to look after her and their two youngsters while he was at work. In this case, a trained home-maker was provided for five weeks by Catholic Charities, a Greater New York Fund affiliate. Under these circumstances, the home-maker is paid what the worker can afford. The worker pays nothing if he can afford nothing.

In another situation, family problems and conflicts had reached



GREATER NEW YORK FUND labor representatives Louis Levine and Bunny Connelly (right) provide skilled professional guidance to a Local 1-S members seeking to solve a personal problem.

a point where the family might have been torn apart. A family of five, including the mother of a Local 1-S member, was living in three rooms. The husband was threatening to leave the family. Through Local 1-S referral, a Family Counseling Agency expert has been providing guidance in exploring emotional difficulties which require understanding, patience and therapy. In such situations, a skilled and sympathetic social worker can help a great deal.

In another case, a member who had been operated on for cancer

needed longtime nursing home care and bed rest. The member had no financial resources. Through the Local 1-S referral service, admission to a nursing home was arranged, with the Department of Welfare paying the costs. The period of nursing home care is expected to last about a year.

These are just a few examples of how Local 1-S members have been able to take advantage of the Community Service offered by their union which in this, as in collective bargaining and economic representation, advances their welfare.

## Bargain-Rate Movie Tickets Now Available at Union Office

Bargain-rate movie tickets will again be sold this year at the Union Office to enable members to see their favorite films and, at the same time, help support the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing.

Tickets are now available at the union to attend any of the 12 Brandt theatres at only 50 cents each. A ticket may be used for a movie any time during one calendar month, and will be usable from January through May, 1960, for most theatres. Proceeds from the sale of the tickets provide the main financial support for the agency's program to promote equal opportunity in housing.

Theatres participating in the program are:

BEACON, B'way at 74th St.  
YORKTOWN, B'way at 89th St.  
MIDTOWN, B'way at 100th St.  
BRANDT's, 86th St. near Lexington Ave.  
AVENUE B, at 5th St.  
EARLE, 37th Road at 73rd St., Jackson Heights.

STRAND, B'way at Crescent Ave., L. I. City.

One ticket may be used interchangeably for the above movie houses. Separate tickets can be obtained for the following theatres:

TRANS-LUX 85TH ST., at Madison Ave.  
GREENWICH, Greenwich Ave. at 12th St.  
BRANDT's YONKERS, 165 S. B'way, Yonkers.  
TRANS-LUX NORMANDIE, 57th St., W. of 6th Ave.  
TRANS-LUX 52ND ST., at Lexington Ave.

Some of the movies scheduled for showing during January are "Gigi," with Leslie Caron, Louis Jourdan and Maurice Chevalier; "The Last Angry Man," with Paul Muni; and "The Anatomy of Love," with Sophia Loren and Vittorio de Sica.

So hurry, hurry, hurry down and get your tickets. You'll save a few dollars on your entertainment budget, and help an important and worthy cause at the same time!

### LOCAL 1-S NEWS

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LOCAL 1-S DEPARTMENT STORE WORKERS UNION

RWDSU, AFL-CIO

290 Seventh Avenue

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1st Vice Pres.: Philip Hoffstein

2nd Vice Pres.: William Atkinson

Editorial Board

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# Sat. Onlies Get Late Xmas Pay; New Policy Set for New Year's

A flood of complaints from Saturday Onlies about their late weekly pay during Christmas week has poured into the Union Office.

Without advance notice of any kind, the company management paid the Saturday Onlies on the Saturday, the day after Christmas, instead of the day before, as most of them anticipated. Indeed, that anticipation was heightened, as was only natural, by the desire to do some last minute shopping.

There is nothing in the union contract which Local 1-S could have cited to forestall what most Saturday Onlies considered a gross discourtesy, nor could the union contractually challenge management's right to ask them to accept assignments on days other than their usual assignment, during the week before Christmas.

However, union representations elicited the statement that the Macy's workload in the office division had been so huge, with Christmas layoffs and other factors, that the company management had no alternative.

As the "Local 1-S News" went to press, it was learned that Macy's would pay the Saturday Onlies the day before New Year's, and not afterwards.

## A Letter From 5 Saturday Onlies

December 24, 1959

Dear Mr. President,  
The Saturday Onlies were not paid their salary on Thursday, the 24th.

We believe that Macy's should have had the courtesy to tell us on December 17th that we would not get our next salary till Saturday, December 26th.

Since we were not scheduled to work that Thursday, because the store closed at 6:00, many Saturday Onlies came to the store to collect their salary. Many came from their homes and schools. You'll never know the disappointment that we received when we called the salary office and were told we wouldn't be paid till Saturday. Not to mention in what kind of weather we left our homes, with the cold and snow, and spent money for carfare.

We assume this deal will be handed to us again Thursday, December 31st. We believe you should take it up with the 16th floor. Inform them we pay union dues and are a part of the store, and the least they should do in the future is to have the decency to inform us in advance about our salary.

What adds more salt to our wounds was the fact that we have a friend in the salary office, and she informed us that executive salaries were paid out in advance, before Xmas, instead of the day they are usually paid.

Hoping you take this matter into serious consideration, and thanking you for your kind attention in this matter,

5 GIRLS FROM STREET FLOOR TABLES

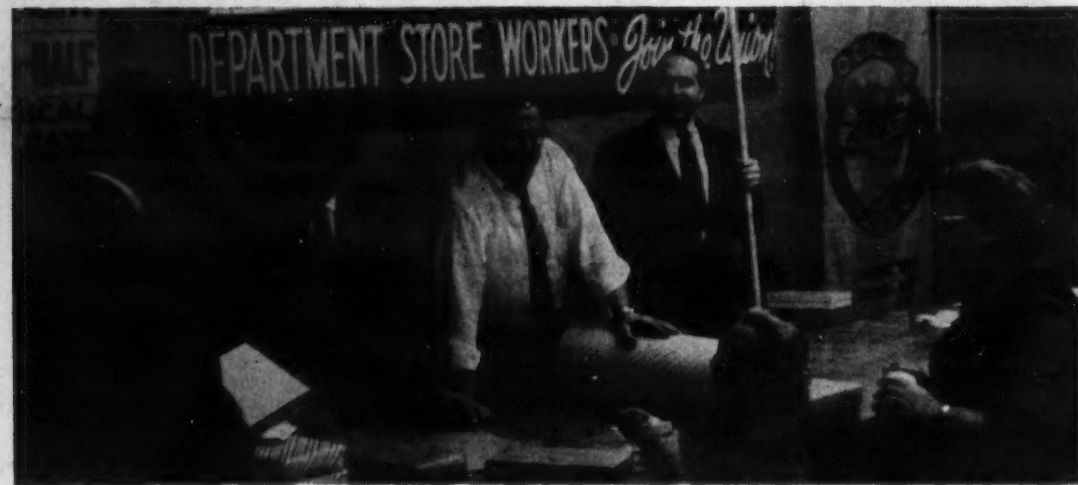
## I-S Urges Mayor To Include Retail Workers in 'Drive'

(Continued from page 1)

of Local 1-S to write letters to the Mayor was issued by Pres. Kovenetsky, and Vice Presidents Phil Hoffstein and Bill Atkinson.

"Tell the Mayor you strongly favor all measures he may undertake to rally support for increasing the Federal and State minimum wage to \$1.25," the Local 1-S officers urged. "And be sure to note that the workers in our own department store industry are not covered by Federal wage legislation at present, and must be in the future."

## 1-S Gives Xmas Gifts To Retirees



Union staff members (above) pack and wrap some 130 gift packages which were sent to retired members of Local 1-S. Over a score of appreciative letters were received by the union from the retirees as the "Local 1-S News" went to press.

Anne Adolf wrote from Florida that "it is really so nice of Local 1-S remembering me." She added, "Down here in Florida, they sure

need a union like ours!"

Some retired members expressed regret that they could not pay the union a seasonal visit, because of illness or, in one case, an amputation.

"Words cannot express how I feel by not being forgotten," wrote Rose Marino. And Irene Schley tendered her seasonal best wishes hoping for much success to the union on the occasion of

its 20th anniversary.

Louise Giauque was pleased to be able to follow the progress of Local 1-S through the union newspaper.

Almost every letter, however brief, expressed not only Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year, but some personal sentiment or recollection of the many years of membership in the union.

## RETIRED MEMBERS — 1959

LUCY ACKER, 21-02 MAG  
ANNE ADOLF, 12-22 P  
MAY ALBERS, 15-940  
ROBERT ASHBY, 11-102  
IRENE AVALLONE, 530-02  
ANNE B. BAILEY, 79-503  
DOROTHY BOXER, 33-07  
ELIZABETH CARMICHAEL, ME-525  
FLORENCE CARROLL, 12-40  
MARY CONANT, 15-561  
STEVEN CONFIDES, 12-32 MAGM  
ANNE DEVLIN, 15-942  
HENRY DOYLE, HDF-18  
CATHERINE FAIRGRIEVE, 11-053  
JOSEPH FENDRICH, 39-2150  
G. FITZGERALD, 105-03  
MARION FREDERICKS, 102-958 MR

MARGARET GUNDERSON, 42-03  
AUGUSTA HEINZEN, P2-59  
FREDA HENKEL, 105-01  
BERTHA HEYMAN, 142-53  
MATILDA HOGAN, 127-60  
HELEN JACOBS, FBJ-01  
SOPHIE KELMAN, 6-01  
JOSEPHINE KENNEDY, 92-64  
JULIUS KLEIN, NC-650  
JESSIE KURTZ, BTO-67  
HEZEKISH LARMOND, HNP-1  
WILLIAM MCCANN, RMIW-28  
BERTHA MCGANN, P5-07  
ERNEST MEYER, 114-951 MR  
VINCENT MONACO, GK-18  
JOSEPH MULQUEEN, 128-01  
ROBERTA PELLIS, MC-702

JANET PETROCINE, 77-60  
PETER PULIZZI, NNP-503  
EVA RAULEE, 126-52  
PAT ROCHE, RMIH-11  
IRENE SCHLEY, 204-01D  
HELEN SCUDERO, 42-253  
SAYDE G. SEIDEN, 165-50  
ANNIE SINGER, 78-50  
ELIZABETH SNEDDON, 23-53  
AUGUSTA STURM, PKH-50  
CATHERINE WAGNER, 161-12  
LEE WOODBURY, CDT  
ISABELLE WOODROW, 223-929  
SOPHIE YENEKES, 258-08K  
JOSEPHINE E. CLARKE, P2-64  
FREDA MAY, 78-04  
BERMAN VOGT, HNP-504

COPE political almanac 1960

## JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

AFL-CIO Committee On Political Education • Washington, D.C.

THIS IS A SAMPLE of the 1960 COPE political calendar now ready for distribution. These illustrated calendars, in two colors, show important 1960 election dates in each state where they are available. In addition, they mark the dates of famous events in the history of the United States and of organized labor. These are priced at 50 cents each and are available at National COPE Headquarters, 815 Sixteenth St. N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

## Telephone Room Supervisor Learns A 'Pointed' Lesson

How do you like to be poked in the back?

No, the question isn't meant to be funny. Ask anybody up in the Macy's Telephone Room. They've got a staff supervisor up there who likes to poke people in the back. But you guessed right: she isn't doing it any more.

Handling the phone during the pre-Christmas season was enough of a burden but this particular supervisor made matters worse by punctuating her remark, "Pick up the phone!" with her finger acting as a spear.

Vice Pres. Phil Hoffstein and Administrator Mildred Kaplonski took the matter up with Macy's Administrator, G. G. Michaelson. Since then, the rather unpleasant habit of finger-poking

has stopped. And the staff supervisor has promised to be mighty careful in the future.

Matter of fact, a much better situation prevails in the telephone room, one indication of which is the improved cooperation between the supervisor and the union steward.

## Kovenetsky Speaks At Local 3 Center

Pres. Sam Kovenetsky lectured on the mutual interests and defense of organized labor during a day-long visit to Bayberry, the educational center of Local 3 Electrical Workers. The union is headed by Harry Van Arsdale, Jr. who is also president of the New York AFL-CIO.

Pres. Kovenetsky also advised the students, consisting of union electricians and electrical workers to buy their union products from unionized stores.

**MEDICAL PLAN**—For the name and address of the doctor, dentist, optometrist or podiatrist nearest you CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540 or Associated Physicians Medical Group—BU 8-4210 (Night or Day) when the Union Office is closed. Complete schedule of fees available upon request.

Full information on benefits and regulations can be obtained from the health plan consultant at the union. Members are also asked to remind their doctors that all claim forms must be returned to the Local 1-S office.

**BLOOD BANK**—If you need blood from the Blood Bank CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540.

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